S. No.	State & Union Territories	No. Of village Industries	No. of Regd. Inst.	No. of V.I. Units (Indl.)
II.	UNION TERRITORIES			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	10	—	41
2.	Chandigrah	12	—	404
3.	Delhi	25	10	5369
4.	Lakshdweep	—	—	—
5.	Pondicherry	19	1	44
	TOTAL	600	4969	785278

Techno-economic studies in North-East

1279. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a grant of Rupees Twenty crores has been provided to the North East Development Financial Corporation by Government through North Eastern Council to fund techno-economic studies for industries and infrastructure best suited to this region; and

(b) if so, the studies conducted, so far, and the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sic. A one time grant of Rs. 20 crores has been given to the North Eastern Development Finance Corporation through North Eastern Council. The North Eastern Development Finance Corporation has constituted an Advisory Committee to advise on the studies to be undertaken.

Fall in business confidence level

1280. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that business confidence level as measured by NCAER's index has fallen to a four-year low;

(b) whether Government have any plan to revive the industrial climate in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) conducts a survey every quarter to gauge the business sentiments underlaying Indian industry. According to the latest survey conducted in December, 1998-January, 1999, the Business Confidence Index (BCI) has fallen marginally compared to the earlier round.

(b) and (c) The Government has announced various measures for correcting sectoral policies and to induce faster growth.

The steps taken to improve industrial growth are:—

1. Special package announced for revival of growth in exports.
2. Repeal of ULCRA and incentive to house ownership.
2. The Government has allowed buy back of shares and inter-corporate loans to boost investment and revive the capital market.

In the Budget for 1999-2000, various measures have been announced for revival of industry to accelerate industrial growth. These include:—

(i) New Competition Laws to replace Monopolies and Trade Restrictive Practices Act.

(ii) The list of automatic approval for FDI will be expanded to cover important indutrial and service sectors.

(iii) A Foreign Investment Implementation Authority within the Ministry of Industry has been announced for quicker investment inflows and speedier implementation of projects.

(iv) Automatic approval for investment upto 100% by NRIs, OCBs for all items except those which attract notified equity cap/compulsory licensing/public sector reservation under Industrial Policy/reservation for small scale sector.

(v) A major overhaul of excise duty rates- from present 11 rates reduced to only 3.

(vi) Restoration of 100% MODVAT credit.

(vii) 7 major ad valorem rates of custom duty reduced to 5 basic rates.

(viii) Massive thrust for road construction financed by rupee one per litre surcharge on diesel.

(ix) Credit Insurance Scheme to be launched for SSI units.

(x) Fiscal package consisting of custom duty reduction announced for Information tehnology sector.

(xi) R&D activity provided further income tax concessions.

(xii) A comprehensive package for the housing sector has been announced. A boost to housing will increase the demand for cement, steel and other construction material.

(xiii) The Reserve Bank of India has cut Bank rate, slashed Repo rate and brought down CRR to reduce the interest cost of funds.

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों के लाभ में भारी गिरावट

1281. **श्री चीमन भाई हरी भाई शुक्ला**: क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बतने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या चालू वित्त वर्ष के दौरान कतिपय सार्वजनिक और गैर-सरकारी उपक्रमों के लाभ मेम काफी अधिक गिरावट आई है:

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन सार्वजनिक और गैर-सरकारी इकाइयों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इन इकाइयों को कम लाभ होने के क्या कारण है; और

(घ) स्थिति में सुधारार्थ क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): (क) वर्ष 1997-98 तक की जानकारी उपलब्ध है और उक्त अवधि के दौरान सरकारी क्षेत्र के 236 उपक्रमों में से 134 ने लाभ अर्जित किया है । हालांकि, सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों के समग्र निष्पादन में सुधार हुआ है, तथापि अनेक उपक्रम अभी भी घाटा उठा रहे है । गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र की कम्पनियों के बारे में जानकारी केंन्द्री यकत ढंग से नहीं रखी जाती है ।

(ख) वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान लाभ में कमी या घाटे में काफी वृद्धि के कारण सरकारी क्षेत्र के जिन उपक्रमों की लाभकारीता में कमी हुई है, उनकी सूची विवरण में दी गई है ।(**नीचे देखि**)

(ग) लाभ में कमी के कारण उद्यम- सापेक्ष होते है तथापि अत्याधिक श्रमशक्ति, निविष्टयों की लागत में वृद्धि, पुराने एंव अप्रचलित संयत्र एवं मशीनरी, पुरानी प्रोद्योगिकी, क्षमता का कम उपयोग, आदेशोम की कमी, कमी के कारण बिक्री से कम प्राप्ति, अन्तरराष्ट्रीय बाजारों में कम मूल्य आदि इसके सामान्य कारण है ।

(घ) केन्द्रीय सरकारी उपक्रमों के कार्य-निष्पादन में सुधार एक सतत प्रक्रिया है और यह उद्यम- सापेक्ष होता है । तथापि, इस संबंध मेम किए जाने वाले कुछेक उपायों में प्रोद्योगिकि उन्न्यन, विविधिकरण एवं उत्पाद-मिश्र में परिवर्तन, संयंत्रो का आधुनिकीकरण माल सूची एवं लागत नियंत्रण, संयुक्त उद्यमों का गठन और नवीनतम कुशलता प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रशिक्षण की व्यवस्था सहित श्रम शक्ति का युक्तिकरण शामिल है ।